

know we have over 60 years worth of proven oil and gas reserves waiting to be developed? Why are we not relying on our own resources rather than on unstable foreign resource?

Today at the Resources Committee we will hear answers from America's oil and natural gas industry on how we, as leaders of this Nation, can help make America more secure against the threat of oil supply disruptions. I strongly encourage my colleagues to listen.

CONTINUING RESOLUTIONS HURTING AMERICA'S CHILDREN

(Mr. RICHARDSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RICHARDSON. Madam Speaker, today House Republicans will bring up another temporary funding bill to keep the Government running for another week. Sound familiar? It should, because that is exactly what happened last week.

If enacted, this will be the 11th temporary spending bill to become law this year. Republicans are lurching from one temporary bill to the other, desperately clinging to their deep cuts in education and environmental protection.

It is almost halfway through the Federal fiscal year, and Republicans still have not funded major parts of the Government for the rest of the year. Among those paying the price for these budget games are local school districts. Many have already let teachers go because they still do not know if they will get enough funding to hire them for next year. This is unfair to our Nation's children, who will suffer from larger classes and less help with basic skills like reading and writing. But who asked for these deep education cuts? Certainly not working families, who overwhelmingly support funding for education.

Let us not hold education hostage to politics.

AMERICA TOO DEPENDENT ON FOREIGN OIL

(Mr. THORNBERRY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THORNBERRY. Madam Speaker, those who do not learn from the mistakes of the past are condemned to repeat them. It has been 5 years since the gulf war, and yet the United States has not yet seemed to learn the dangers of being dependent on other for our energy needs.

In fact, the United States is more dependent on foreign oil than ever before. More than 50 percent of our oil is imported, with about 20 percent coming from the Persian Gulf. We continue to lose producing wells, independent exploration and producing companies, as well as expertise. Talk about

downsizing and exporting jobs—more than 500,000 jobs have been lost in oil and gas. And yet we go right along—acting as though domestic energy production is a luxury rather than a necessity of life in an unstable world.

Madam Speaker, it's time we learned from the past and take steps now to put us on the road to energy independence.

ASSAULT ON PUBLIC EDUCATION

(Mr. DOGGETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DOGGETT. Madam Speaker, still high on the agenda of this Gingrich Congress is the assault on public education. It began last year with school lunch. You will remember the Speaker's assault and attempt to destroy a program that had enjoyed 50 years of bipartisan support to assure and guarantee school lunches for our Nation's young people. Then it was on to college. Let us add \$5,000, the Speaker said, to the cost of going to college for those families that have struggled to get their kids through public school.

This year it is back to our smallest children. It is the program of giving not a Head Start, but a wrong start, to millions of American children. In my hometown it means cutting prekindergarten for 2,300 children in half. That is the program of placing obstacles in the way of opportunity for America's young children.

I know Speaker GINGRICH was very gleeful yesterday at this microphone as he blocked educational opportunities for immigrant children. Well, what about all the people that have been here and spent all of their lives and generations in this country and the hopes and aspirations of their parents? Let us stand up against this assault on public education.

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BIG GOVERNMENT AND EDUCATION

(Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, as we have heard this morning the rhetoric from the other side about education, let us talk about education in this country for just 1 second. Since the mid-1960's, the Great Society, billions of dollars thrown at education, and where are our kids today? Where are students today? Has money helped the education in this country coming from the Federal Government? I say no.

The SAT scores have gone down. Drugs have gone up. Illegitimacy has gone up. Where is education in this country today? Billions of dollars thrown at it from the Federal Government. I think it is time we give it back

to the parents and the communities and let them give their children a good education.

WHICH REPUBLICAN MEMBERS TRUSTS HAMAS?

(Mr. EDWARDS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. EDWARDS. Madam Speaker, this morning I saw one of the most blessed sights that any husband or parent could ever see: My wife, cuddling in her arms, our 3-month-old son, both of them happy, healthy, and safe. But as I left them, I was haunted by the words spoken by a Republican House Member on the floor in this House last Wednesday when that person said: "I trust Hamas more than I trust my own Government."

Madam Speaker, Hamas is a terrorist organization that proudly murders innocent women and children. Every parent and every person in America should be outraged that a Member of this Congress could place trust in terrorists that would destroy the lives of innocent children and the families who love them. The Republican Member of this House who made this extremist, morally repugnant statement owes it to his or her colleagues and the people of this Nation to admit his or her identity.

BIG GOVERNMENT AND OUR CHILDREN

(Mr. LARGENT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LARGENT. Madam Speaker, we have heard this morning about the cruel Republicans cutting education. Let us talk about our children for just a minute. Less than a month ago, the President of the United States stood at that podium and said the era of big government is over. Now, everybody on this side of the aisle stood up and applauded when he said that, and nobody on this side said anything about it. They sat in their seats.

Why was that? Because nobody believed him when he said that. The era of big government is not over. Otherwise, why is the President asking for more and more money? Why is this a concern for our children? Why should parents be concerned about government continuing to spend more and more money? I will tell you why. A child born today will owe \$187,109 over their lifetime just to pay their share of the interest on the national debt.

If we continue things, the status quo in Washington, they will face an effective tax rate of 84 percent in their lifetime; 84 cents of every dollar they earn will go to the government at one level. That is wrong. Let us do make the savings and think about our children and the future.